

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-fifth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-five and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundredth.

GERALD R. FORD

Proclamation 4404

October 28, 1975

Wright Brothers Day, 1975

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

On December 17, 1903, near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, two brothers made the first successful flight in a heavier-than-air, mechanically propelled airplane they had designed and built after years of experimentation.

Through ingenuity and courage, Orville and Wilbur Wright revolutionized transportation. In the 72 years since their epic flight, aviation and space technology has contributed to closer ties among the peoples of the world by inspiring their imagination, promoting commerce and encouraging travel.

To commemorate the historic achievements of the Wright brothers, the Congress, by a joint resolution of December 17, 1963 (77 Stat. 402, 36 U.S.C. 169), designated the seventeenth day of December of each year as Wright Brothers Day and requested the President to issue annually a proclamation inviting the people of the United States to observe that day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, do hereby invite the people of this Nation, and their local and national government officials, to observe Wright Brothers Day, December 17, 1975, with appropriate ceremonies and activities, both to recall the accomplishments of the Wright brothers and to provide a stimulus to aviation in this country and throughout the world.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-eighth day of October, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-

five, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundredth.

GERALD R. FORD

Proclamation 4405

November 4, 1975

Thanksgiving Day, 1975

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Two hundred years ago the frontier colonies of America braced for a long and determined conflict with the strongest military power in the world. The petition of our Founding Fathers for redress of their grievances had been rejected by King and Parliament, and the people of America began the struggle from which emerged this great Nation.

Our Nation is the oldest continuously surviving republic in the world. For 200 years our freedoms have been questioned, challenged, tested and reinforced. These freedoms have shaped our destiny and served as a beacon to other peoples. Our Nation draws its strength from people of every creed, of every color, of every race—native Americans and people from every nation in the world who for two centuries have come to share in the rewards and responsibilities of our American Republic.

On the eve of our 200th year, Thanksgiving Day should be a day of special reflection upon the qualities of heart, mind and character of the men and women who founded and built our great Nation. Let us join in giving thanks for our cultural pluralism. Let us celebrate our diversity and the great strengths that have come from sharing our traditions, our ideas, our resources, our hopes and our dreams. Let us be grateful that for 200 years our people have been dedicated to fulfilling the democratic ideal—dedicated to securing “liberty and justice for all.”

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GERALD R. FORD, President of the United States of America, in accord with Section 6103 of Title 5 of the United States Code, do hereby proclaim Thursday, November 27, 1975, as a day of national thanksgiving.

Let each of us, in his own way, join in expressing personal gratitude for the blessings of liberty and peace we enjoy today. In so doing, let us